

Grade 5 Sample Test Prompt

Voice

Imagine a train that could take you anywhere on Earth! You have a ticket in your hand for a trip that can make stops at three places.

Write a story about what happens from the time you get on the train until it returns to your hometown.

Your writing should:

- Have a story line with clear sequence.
- Use descriptive words and phrases.
- Have well-developed characters.
- Describe the setting.

Remember to edit for spelling, grammar, punctuation, and capitalization.

AIMS Six Trait Analytic Writing Rubric – Official Scoring Guide

VOICE

<p>6</p> <p>The writer has chosen a voice appropriate for the topic, purpose and audience. The writer seems deeply committed to the topic, and there is an exceptional sense of “writing to be read.” The writing is expressive, engaging, or sincere. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an effective level of closeness to or distance from the audience (e.g., a narrative should have a strong personal voice, while an expository piece may require extensive use of outside resources and a more academic voice; nevertheless, both should be engaging, lively, or interesting. Technical writing may require greater distance.). • an exceptionally strong sense of audience; the writer seems to be aware of the reader and of how to communicate the message most effectively. The reader may discern the writer behind the words and feel a sense of interaction. • a sense that the topic has come to life; when appropriate, the writing may show originality, liveliness, honesty, conviction, excitement, humor, or suspense. 	<p>5</p> <p>The writer has chosen a voice appropriate for the topic, purpose, and audience. The writer seems committed to the topic, and there is a sense of “writing to be read.” The writing is expressive, engaging or sincere. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an appropriate level of closeness to or distance from the audience (e.g., a narrative should have a strong personal voice while an expository piece may require extensive use of outside resources and a more academic voice; nevertheless, both should be engaging, lively or interesting. Technical writing may require greater distance.). • a strong sense of audience; the writer seems to be aware of the reader and of how to communicate the message most effectively. The reader may discern the writer behind the words and feel a sense of interaction. • a sense that the topic has come to life; when appropriate, the writing may show originality, liveliness, honesty, conviction, excitement, humor, or suspense. 	<p>4</p> <p>A voice is present. The writer demonstrates commitment to the topic, and there may be a sense of “writing to be read.” In places, the writing is expressive, engaging, or sincere. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a questionable or inconsistent level of closeness to or distance from the audience. • a sense of audience; the writer seems to be aware of the reader but has not consistently employed an appropriate voice. The reader may glimpse the writer behind the words and feel a sense of interaction in places. • liveliness, sincerity, or humor when appropriate; however, at times the writing may be either inappropriately casual or personal, or inappropriately formal and stiff.
<p>3</p> <p>The writer’s commitment to the topic seems inconsistent. A sense of the writer may emerge at times; however, the voice is either inappropriately personal or inappropriately impersonal. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a limited sense of audience; the writer’s awareness of the reader is unclear. • an occasional sense of the writer behind the words; however, the voice may shift or disappear a line or two later and the writing become somewhat mechanical. • a limited ability to shift to a more objective voice when necessary. 	<p>2</p> <p>The writing provides little sense of involvement or commitment. There is no evidence that the writer has chosen a suitable voice. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • little engagement of the writer; the writing tends to be largely flat, lifeless, stiff, or mechanical. • a voice that is likely to be overly informal and personal. • a lack of audience awareness; there is little sense of “writing to be read.” • little or no hint of the writer behind the words. There is rarely a sense of interaction between reader and writer. 	<p>1</p> <p>The writing seems to lack a sense of involvement or commitment. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no engagement of the writer; the writing is flat and lifeless. • a lack of audience awareness; there is no sense of “writing to be read.” • no hint of the writer behind the words. There is no sense of interaction between writer and reader; the writing does not involve or engage the reader.

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Writing

DIRECTIONS: Now write your final copy on the following two pages.

FINAL COPY

last year on Wednesday from the school building to
the clock after that we went on the bus the bus
drove all the way to dosings to get on the train to
go to silveston were we got this they said we will
go to a nice reston to eat and then we went outside
to take a picture and then we will go back
on the bus to go back to Ti's back base

Score point 1 -- The writing lacks a sense of involvement. There is no hint of the writer behind the words. The writing does not involve or engage the reader.

Writing

DIRECTIONS: Now write your final copy on the following two pages.

FINAL COPY

My name is _____ and I have a ticket to a train called the Bulldozer. I got on the train and went to Brazil I met my uncle said hi and got back on the train to Chile. I got there and it became boring so I left and return home in Mesa, Arizona. I told my family all about my adventure.

Score point 2 -- The writing provides little sense of involvement. It is lifeless and mechanical. "I met my uncle said hi and got back on the train to Chile." There is little hint of the writer behind the words.

Writing**DIRECTIONS:** Now write your final copy on the following two pages.**FINAL COPY**

If I could go to any wher in the world I would go to Hawaii. But ther would be a problem, Hawaii is on the ocean, how could I go ther becaus a train can't go to the ocean? But ther is a nother solusion I could go to a nother place like the mall or to beach, or to Lundpan, I always wanted to go ther. But ther is an nother solusion I could youst go to Hawaii, if they have a train station ther beaus I could youst take an air plane then go to the train station, and go to Hawaii and I could go to the mall and ther is a beach in Hawaii so I could go swimming ther and if I learrnd I would go surfing, and I could by jealeary and dresses ther becaus they have cool stuffer thing in Hawaii.

Score point 3 -- The writer's awareness of the reader is unclear. There is an occasional sense of the writer behind the words, for instance, when the writer writes about "solusions." There is a limited sense of audience.

Writing**DIRECTIONS:** Now write your final copy on the following two pages.**FINAL COPY**

One day I was on a train. It was amazing the country side was so beautiful. With all the meadows, flowers, and butterflies. Even the bees were beautiful, with their yellow and black stripes. The flowers were the sight to see, with their red, yellow, purple, pink, orange, blue, white, yellow-green, blue-green, and a lot more.

Finally we arrived in Indiana or should I say Hoosier State. There is a lot of people there. They're all different sizes there's small, tall, and fat people. And most of them are staring at me. A few say, "Hi" some just ignore me like I don't exist.

The next state is Ohio it's kind of like Indiana, but more alive. A lot more people say "Hi" and not much people ignore me like I don't exist. I visit some restaurants there really nice, but they have a lot of red. But what restaurant doesn't. Next I visit some stores and buy some

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Go On 

Writing**FINAL COPY**

sewiners.

The last state before I go home. England is such a beautiful place. You wouldn't believe your eyes I mean really. There's colors all over the place. Color is there and here if love colors England would be the place for you. Well I got some sewiners back on the road again.

Time to go back home to Arizona. We went a different way this time. It was beautiful. I guess all country sides are beautiful. Back home all my friends were glad to see me and glad I'm safe. What till I tell them what happened.

Score point 4 -- The voice is present, and the writer seems to be aware of the reader but has not consistently employed an appropriate voice. The writer's discussion of color begins well and exhibits liveliness and sincerity: "With all the medoes, flowers, and butterflies. Even the bees were beautiful, with they're yellow and black strips." Later references, in paragraph four, are not presented with any commitment.



Writing*The Awesome Train Ride!***DIRECTIONS:** Now write your final copy on the following two pages.**FINAL COPY**

One day I was passing around, until I saw a person asking people if they wanted a ticket, I told him that I would take it, so he gave it to me. I went up to a Conductor and I asked what it was for, he said, "It's for a trip to France, Hawaii, and Las Vegas, but you can't bring your family!" "Oh, that's ok they wouldn't be able to come," I said.

So I went home and told them, and they said they couldn't come so I was right. So the next day I went to the train, and when I got on I gave the Conductor my ticket, and took my seat. The first place we went to was Las Vegas, it was so hectic, but I went to the casino and played Air Hockey, it was fun! I also bought some cool stuff to bring back!

The next day I got back on the train, and he took me to a ship, and the ship took me to Hawaii, it was so cool, I played Hawaiian games, and Hula danced, all night at a party! I also got some awesome stuff to bring home!

The next day I didn't want to leave, but I had to, so I got on the ship, and he took me to France, I was so excited, when I got there, I went to Paris and all of the other cool places there, and I also got a bunch of stuff from there, once again I had to go when I didn't want to, but I did.

When I got on the ship he took me back to Las Vegas and the train came and got me, and took me back home. When I got there it was 1:00 in the morning, so I tiptoed to my bedroom and went to sleep.

When I woke up in the morning, everyone was crowded around my face, so I screamed, then I stopped and said, "You scared me!" "Sorry," they all said, then I told them all about my trip and gave them the stuff I brought and they all picked what they wanted and said, "Thank!"

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Go On 

Writing

FINAL COPY

I said: "No problem!" and we all were happy after that!

Score Point 5 -- The writer seems committed to the topic, and there is a sense of "writing to be read." The writing is expressive and engaging. The writer behind the words is evident in lines such as "...once again I had to go when I didn't want to, but I did" and "I tip-toed to my bedroom and went to sleep."



Writing**DIRECTIONS:** Now write your final copy on the following two pages.**FINAL COPY**

One day, I brought tickets for a train that could take you to any three different places, your choice!

First of all, I chose to go to World Series game 7 2004. The teams that were playing were the Chicago Cubs and the Boston Red Sox. It was a fantastic game! In the bottom of the second, Manny Ramirez hit a towering three-man home-run. Then, later in the ninth, Sammy Sosa hit a Grand Slam into right field! "The Cubs won the World Series!" the announcer screamed. The whole team piled onto the field.

Second of all, I went to the X Games. It was awesome. When the BMX riders were on, Matt Hoffman landed a 900 on a bike! When the roller-bladers were up, there was this one guy who nailed an immense backflip! When the skateboarders were up,

Writing**FINAL COPY**

Tony Hawk landed the first 1,080 on a skateboard!

Last of all, I went to a tropical rainforest in Brazil. I had never had so much fun in my life! I was taking a canoe ride down the Amazon River when suddenly a huge crocodile came out to get me! I pulled out my shotgun from my belt and shot it. I took a break on the shore. I heard some noises. There was an Amazon rainforest Indian tribe! They were really friendly. They let me in their little town. They gave me food. They even let me dance around their fire with them! Then an army of army ants tried to get into our town. We threw rocks and boulders at them and then we set a fire around our town. They all died. Then I left and said some good-byes and thank-yous. Those three journeys were the best I would have in my whole life.

Score point 6 – The writer seems deeply committed to the topic and there is an exceptional sense of “writing to be read.” The description of the World Series game in paragraph two, the skateboarding action in paragraph three, and the Amazon adventure in paragraph four all come to life. The writing shows originality, liveliness, excitement, and humor.